IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying bi-directional text ~~using~~ in a browser program on a computer coupled to drive a display and having an operating system such that the computer normally writes text to the display in a default language in a first, default direction, the method comprising:

obtaining a bi-directional language support utility program;

the bi-directional language support utility program opening a window on the display;

the bi-directional language support utility program receiving a string of codes, each code corresponding to a character in a passage of text, at least a portion of which is in a non-default language that is written in a second direction, opposite to the default direction; and

the bi-directional language support utility program displaying the characters corresponding to the codes in the window such that the passage of text is displayed with all portions thereof arranged in respectively appropriate directions, ~~without reference to language support provided by~~ such that the operating system ~~or~~ and the browser program need not themselves provide bi-directional language support.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein receiving the string of codes comprises receiving an input keyed by a user of the computer and generating the string of codes responsive to the input.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein receiving the input comprises displaying a keyboard in the non-default language on the computer display and receiving an input from the user responsive to the displayed keyboard.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein displaying the keyboard comprises varying the language of the keyboard display responsive to a selection by the user.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein generating the string of codes comprises writing codes to the string corresponding to the portion of the passage in the non-default language in a reverse order, such that the characters in the non-default language are displayed in proper order in the second direction.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, and comprising transmitting the string of codes over a network.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein receiving the string of codes comprises reading codes of characters located in an area of the display overlaid by the window.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein opening the window comprises adjusting coordinates of the window so as to contain characters on the display corresponding to the string.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein receiving the string of codes comprises cutting and pasting characters on the display corresponding to the string so as to be contained within the window.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein displaying the characters comprises translating the codes of the characters on the display so that they appear in the window in an alphabet of the non-default language.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein translating the codes of the characters comprises reversing an order of the converted characters so that they appear in their correct order in the non-default language.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein reversing the order of the characters comprises reversing an order of at least some of the characters in the window responsive to an order switch invoked by a user of the computer.

13. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for displaying bi-directional text, comprising:

a display screen; and

a computer, running an operating system and a browser program and coupled to drive the display such that text is normally written to the display in a default language in a first, default direction,

wherein the computer obtains and executes a bi-directional language support utility program and thereby:

opens a window on the display;

receives a string of codes, each code corresponding to a character in a passage of text, at least a portion of which is in a non-default language that is written in a second direction, opposite to the default direction[[,]]; and

causes the characters corresponding to the codes to be displayed in ~~a~~ the window on the screen such that the passage of text is displayed with all portions thereof arranged in respectively-appropriate directions, ~~without reference to language support provided by~~ such that the operating system ~~or~~ and the browser program need not themselves provide bi-directional language support.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, and comprising a user input device, wherein the string of codes comprises an input keyed by a user of the computer operating the input device.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the computer transmits the string of codes over a network.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein responsive to an input by a user, the computer overlays the window on an area of the display screen in which the characters are displayed, receives the string of codes corresponding to the characters in the area, and processes the codes so as to display the characters in their appropriate languages.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the computer reverses the order of the displayed characters in the portion of the text that is in the non-default language.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising permitting a user to selectively manipulate the passage of text or the window so that the passage of text is contained within the window.